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still flying over a part of our territory? When was this issue taken up by the Government of India and when is a decision expected to be arrived at regarding this light-house? ''

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN :—" The Union Jack has been there because the light-house is under the control of the Department of Transport of the United Kingdom. The question of transfer of the light-house to the Government of India is still under correspondence with the United Kingdom. The Government of the United Kingdom have stated that they are agreeable to *de facto* transfer, pending legislation by Parliament for *de jure* transfer which will take some time. The matter is under the consideration of the Government of India.''

SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP :—" The Islanders are still governed by the autocratic rule of the amins over whom the Collector is not able to exercise proper control due to lack of communication. One of their demands has been the introduction of democratic element in the administration. May I know what has been done by the Government with regard to this matter? ''

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN :—" As I said, this is a matter which has got to be considered in consultation with the Government of India, and that is being done.''

SRI V. BALAKRISHNAN :—" Will the Hon. Minister take a party of legislators to this mysterious Island? ''

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN :—" I have been asking enthusiastic Members like the Member who put this question whether they will accompany me on a visit to the Island within three or four months.''

SRI T. C. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR :—" Have the Government taken any action on the recommendations made by Mr. Francis, who was deputed by the State Government to enquire into and make suggestions for the development of the Island? ''

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN ;—" They are almost similar to the recommendations made by the Special Officer, Sri S. Y. Krishnaswami, a few years ago. Action is being taken to implement the suggestions made by him.''

*Amendment to the City Municipal Act.*

* 2025 *Q.*—SRI S. PAKKIRISWAMI PILLAI : Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Corporation of Madras has suggested any amendments to the Madras City Municipal Act, 1919; and

(*b*) if so, the action taken thereon by the Government?

THE HON. SRI S. S. RAMASAMY PADAYACHI :—" (*a*) Yes, Sir.

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" (*b*) It has been decided to take up the amendments to the Madras City Municipal Act, after the working relating to comprehensive amendments to the Madras District Municipalities Act, 1920, Madras District Board Act, 1920, and the Madras Village Panchayats Act, 1950, which are now under consideration, is over."

SRI K. VINAYAKAM :—" Is it not a fact that these amendments were suggested by the Corporation even before 1951? When questions were put in this House then, the Hon. Minister replied that they would be considered after the elections to the Corporation Council. In 1952 elections to the Corporation Council were held. When questions are put now, that is in 1955, the reply is that the amendments will be considered after the elections in 1955. How long are the Government going to adopt this kind of dilatory tactics? "

THE HON. SRI S. S. RAMASAMY PADAYACHI :—" Government have received more than 150 amendments from the Corporation Council. Certainly the Government will consider the inclusion of important amendments in the legislation."

SRI K. VINAYAKAM :—" Two of the amendments suggested by the Corporation are the bifurcation of unwieldy divisions and bringing the electoral roll up to date. Does the Minister think that these are not proper amendments to be considered before the elections? "

THE HON. SRI S. S. RAMASAMY PADAYACHI :—" These come under important and urgent amendments to the Act."

SRI S. RAMALINGAM :—" 1919-ம் வருஷத்தில் நிறைவேற்றப்பட்ட சிட்டி முனிசிபல் ஆக்ட் அது. சமுதாய வளர்ச்சி சுதந்தர மனப்பான்மை இவைகள் எல்லாம் இருக்கக்கூடிய இந்த நாளில் இந்த சட்டத்தை அடியோடு திருத்துவதற்கு சர்க்கார் முன் வருமா ? கார்போரேஷனிலிருந்து 150 திருத்தங்கள் இந்த சட்டத்திற்கு சிபாரிசு செய்திருக்கிறார்கள். ஆகவே அதற்கு வேண்டிய திருத்தங்களோடு இந்த சட்டத்தைத் தயாரிப்பதற்கு சர்க்கார் ஏற்பாடு செய்வார்களா ? "

THE HON. SRI S. S. RAMASAMY PADAYACHI :—" அவசியமிருந்தால் அதைப்பற்றி அவசியம் யோசிப்பார்கள். "

SRI S. SWAYAMPRAKASAM :—" The very fact that 150 amendments have been proposed by the Corporation shows the importance and urgency of the matter. Why should the Government delay the matter? "

THE HON. SRI S. S. RAMASAMY PADAYACHI :—" We are taking up one after the other."

*Issue of gun licences to Legislators.*

* 2026 *Q.*—SRI K. C. GOPALAN UNNI : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether this Government was consulted by the Central Government regarding a private Bill in the Lok Sabha recommending issue of gun licences to Members of Parliament and State Legislatures; and